

Attorney Docket No.: BERN-0050  
Inventors: Eric F. Bernstein  
Serial No.: 09/913,559  
Filing Date: February 8, 2002  
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**Listing of the Claims:**

Claim 1: (currently amended) A transgenic hairless mouse capable of ~~expressing a full length or whose genome comprises a homozygous truncated human elastin promoter activated by UV or solar simulating operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a reporter protein.~~

Claim 2: (currently amended) A ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture derived from the transgenic hairless mouse of claim 1 comprising a homozygous truncated human elastin promoter activated by UV or solar simulating radiation operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a reporter protein.

Claim 3: (currently amended) A method of identifying compounds capable of inhibiting cutaneous photodamage comprising:

- (a) applying a test compound to skin of the transgenic hairless mouse of claim 1;
- (b) exposing the transgenic mouse to UVB radiation, UVA radiation or solar simulating radiation; and
- (c) measuring expression of the reporter gene to determine truncated human elastin promoter activity in the transgenic hairless mouse, wherein a compound which decreases the measured

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determined human elastin promoter activity as compared to control transgenic hairless mice inhibits cutaneous photodamage.

Claim 4: (currently amended) A method of identifying compounds capable of inhibiting cutaneous photodamage comprising:

- (a) contacting the ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture of claim 2 with a test compound;
- (b) exposing the ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture to UVB radiation, UVA radiation or solar simulating radiation; and
- (c) measuring expression of the reporter gene to determine truncated human elastin promoter activity in the ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture, wherein a compound which decreases the measured determined human elastin promoter activity as ~~compare~~ compared to a control ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture inhibits cutaneous photodamage.

Claim 5: (currently amended) An in vitro system for identifying agents capable of inhibiting or preventing oxidative damage comprising:

- the ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture of claim 2; and
- a means for generating reactive oxygen species within the mouse fibroblast cell culture.

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Claim 6: (currently amended) A method for identifying agents capable of inhibiting or preventing oxidative damage comprising:

adding a test agent suspected of providing protection against oxidative damage to the ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture of claim 2;

add a means for generation of reactive oxygen species to the ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture;

determining truncated or full length human elastin promoter activity in the ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture exposed to the test agent after a selected time period; and

comparing the determined truncated or full length human elastin promoter activity in the ~~mouse fibroblast~~ cell culture exposed to the test agent to truncated or full length human elastin promoter activity in a control ~~fibroblast~~ cell culture wherein a decrease in the determined truncated or full length human elastin promoter activity is indicative of the test agent inhibiting or preventing oxidative damage.